

I. AMENDMENTS

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Dm
12/27/04*
IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 2-7 without prejudice to renewal.

1.-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A method for preparing a mammalian cell deficient in hypoxanthine phosphoribosyltransferase (HPRT), which method comprises introducing into target cells containing a wild-type HPRT locus a construct which comprises a modified DNA fragment, said fragment corresponding to the genomic site at which the wild-type HPRT locus is located,

wherein said DNA fragment comprises a first sequence immediately downstream of the second exon of the hprt locus congruent with the wild-type sequence 55 kb upstream of said first sequence in the native DNA containing wild-type HPRT locus, wherein a mammalian cell deficient in HPRT is obtained.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 which further comprises the steps of

- a) identifying cells containing said deletion by selecting cells containing a selectable marker present in said construct; and
- b) recovering cells containing said deletion.

13.-15. (Canceled)